

What is Christian Apologetics?

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What is Christian Apologetics? (60 min)

Is it an apology for Christianity? Not at all.

- Dictionary definition: The branch of theology concerned with the defense and rational justification of Christianity. A defensive method of explanation and argument. Reasoned arguments or writings in justification of something, typically a theory or religious doctrine.
- Laymen's definition: To defend the Bible to those who don't believe in it with pure reason & logic, and external evidence *without using the Bible itself*. The reason for this is because people who don't believe the Bible will not be interested in hearing it's arguments. The goal of apologetics is to get them to be open to understanding by using their own line of thinking and reason.

How did the Universe begin?

There are only three possible answers to this question.

1. It was created by something larger than itself since the first law of thermodynamics says that energy cannot be created, only changed.

The universe had to be created by something outside itself, because of the same law. We also know that man could not have created it.

2. It was begun by chance (or accident); or

3. The answer is not sure.

1 in 4 Americans now claim no religious affiliation in 2015...Atheism is on the rise.

According to the latest 2015 Pew poll, atheist beliefs are continuing to rise, especially among Millennials. The number of Americans "absolutely certain" about God's existence has fallen to a new low, and those who outright claim that God does not exist is at historical levels. But the interesting thing about the atheism religion poll is that it shows atheists have a spiritual side.

In a related report by the Inquisitr, an atheist scientist claims that virtual particles and Inflation Theory proves that God did not create the universe from "nothing." But Christians say this claim is based upon bad philosophy since it allegedly confuses the definition of "nothing".

The Pew Research Center says the 2014 Religious Landscape Study is a follow-up poll from the study previously conducted back in 2007. The number of U.S. adults who believe in God's existence has declined, dropping from 92 percent to 89 percent in the last eight years. Thus, one in 10 adults in the United States could be considered an atheist or non-believer of some type.

The number of people who list their religious affiliation as "none" has also risen, going from 16 percent up to 23 percent of the United States population. This does not mean that these people are all atheist believers. Instead, the Pew Research Center notes that the "nones" are a diverse group who may be disgruntled with organized religion.

"In fact, the majority of Americans without a religious affiliation say they believe in God. As a group, however, the 'nones' are far less religiously observant than Americans who identify with a specific faith. And, as the 'nones' have grown in size, they also have become even less observant of their faith."

At the same time, the number of Americans who say they are “absolutely certain” that God exists has dropped from 71 percent in 2007 down to 63 percent. In the past, those who considered religion “not too important” might have still claimed a religious affiliation, but now “they increasingly describe themselves as atheist, agnostic or nothing in particular when asked about their religious identity.”

This decrease has occurred mostly due to the death of older generations. Only about 40 percent of Millennials consider religion to be an important factor in their lives. This generational shift has greatly influenced the new study since they were largely not included in the 2007 poll.

The survey also asked about three changes in American society: “more women in the workforce, more people having children without getting married and the growing population of immigrants.” In general, large majorities of religious people say that having women in the workforce is a change for the better, while most Christians and Muslims say having a child out of wedlock has been a bad change.

Most atheist believers said this societal change is neither positive nor negative. Otherwise, Americans are divided on the issue of immigration, with 35 percent saying growing immigrant populations have made the country worse, and 26 percent saying it has improved the United States.

[10 facts about atheists](http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2016/06/01/10-facts-about-atheists/) - By Michael Lipka <http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2016/06/01/10-facts-about-atheists/> 6/1/2016

Estimating the number of atheists in the U.S. is complicated. Some adults who describe themselves as atheists also say they believe in God or a universal spirit. At the same time, some people who identify with a religion (e.g., say they are Protestant, Catholic or Jewish) also say they do not believe in God.

But one thing is for sure: Along with the rise of religiously unaffiliated Americans (many of whom believe in God), there has been a corresponding increase in the number of atheists. As nonbelievers and others gather in Washington, D.C., for the “Reason Rally,” here are key facts about atheists and their beliefs:

1. The share of Americans who identify as atheists has roughly doubled in the past several years. Pew Research Center’s 2014 Religious Landscape Study found that 3.1% of American adults say they are atheists when asked about their religious identity, up from 1.6% in a similarly large survey in 2007. An additional 4.0% of Americans call themselves agnostics, up from 2.4% in 2007.
2. Atheists, in general, are more likely to be male and younger than the overall population; 68% are men, and the median age of atheist adults in the U.S. is 34 (compared with 46 for all U.S. adults). Atheists also are more likely to be white (78% are Caucasian vs. 66% for the general public) and highly educated: About four-in-ten atheists (43%) have a college degree, compared with 27% of the general public.
3. Self-identified atheists tend to be aligned with the Democratic Party and with political liberalism. About two-thirds of atheists (69%) identify as Democrats (or lean in that direction), and a majority (56%) call themselves political liberals (compared with just one-in-ten who say they are conservatives). Atheists overwhelmingly favor same-sex marriage (92%) and legal abortion (87%). In addition, three-quarters (74%) say that government aid to the poor does more good than harm.
4. Although the literal definition of “atheist” is “a person who believes that God does not exist,” according to the Merriam-Webster dictionary, 8% of those who call themselves atheists also say they believe in God or a “*universal spirit*”. Indeed, 2% say they are “absolutely certain” about the existence of God or a universal spirit. Alternatively, there are many people who fit the dictionary definition of “atheist” but do not call themselves atheists. About three times as many Americans say they do not believe in God or a universal spirit (9%) as say they are atheists (3%).

5. Unsurprisingly, more than nine-in-ten self-identified atheists say religion is not too or not at all important in their lives, and nearly all (97%) say they seldom or never pray. (of those who pray – who are they praying to?) At the same time, many do not see a contradiction between atheism and pondering their place in the world. Three-in-ten (31%) say they feel a deep sense of spiritual peace and well-being at least weekly. A similar share (35%) often thinks about the meaning and purpose of life. And roughly half of all atheists (54%) frequently feel a deep sense of wonder about the universe, up from 37% in 2007. In fact, atheists are more likely than U.S. Christians to say they often feel a sense of wonder about the universe (54% vs. 45%).
6. In the 2014 Religious Landscape Study, self-identified atheists were asked how often they share their views on God and religion with religious people. Only about one-in-ten atheists (9%) say they do at least weekly, while roughly two-thirds (65%) say they seldom or never discuss their views on religion with religious people. By comparison, 26% of those who have a religious affiliation share their views at least once a week with those who have other beliefs; 43% say they seldom or never do.
7. Virtually no atheists (1%) turn to religion for guidance on questions of right and wrong, but increasing numbers are turning to science. About a third of atheists (32%) say they look primarily to science for guidance on questions of right and wrong, up from 20% in 2007. A plurality (44%) still cite “practical experience and common sense” as their primary guide on such questions, but that is down from 52% in 2007.
8. Americans like atheists less than they like members of most major religious groups. A 2014 Pew Research Center survey asked Americans to rate groups on a “feeling thermometer” from zero (as cold and negative as possible) to 100 (the warmest, most positive possible rating). U.S. adults gave atheists an average rating of 41, comparable to the rating they gave Muslims (40) and far colder than the average given to Jews (63), Catholics (62) and evangelical Christians (61).
9. About half of Americans (51%) say they would be less likely to support an atheist candidate for president, more than say the same about a candidate with any other trait mentioned in a Pew Research Center survey – including being Muslim. This figure, while still high, has declined in recent years – in early 2007, 63% of U.S. adults said they would be less likely to support an atheist presidential candidate. There are currently no self-described atheists serving in Congress, although there is one House member, Kyrsten Sinema (D-Ariz.), who describes herself as religiously unaffiliated.
10. About half of Americans (53%) say it is not necessary to believe in God to be moral, while 45% say belief in God is necessary to have good values, according to a 2014 survey. In other wealthy countries, smaller shares tend to say that a belief in God is essential for good morals, including just 15% in France. But in many other parts of the world, nearly everyone says that a person must believe in God to be moral, including 99% in Indonesia and Ghana and 98% in Pakistan.

ATHEISM:

Comes from the Greek words “a” meaning not or no and “theos” meaning God.

Atheism Claims:

- 1) The natural matter in the universe is all that exists. – but they can’t explain where that matter came from...
- 2) The universe operates only by natural laws. – but they can’t explain the how the laws function or the existence of either evil or good.
- 3) Any event that seems to happen supernaturally is really some sort of natural occurrence. (magic?)
- 4) The reality of evil, the purposelessness of life, the randomness of the universe, and evolution all argue against the existence of God. (because they will not listen to or consider the Great Controversy or the origin of evil according to the Scriptures)
- 5) The Bible is a book of human invention, not the word of God. – they refuse to consider how the Bible came to be, 66 books by different authors over 1500 years with no contradictions)

6) Jesus, if He existed, performed no miracles, did not rise from the dead, and was not God. (this is just a blatant refusal to submit to the fact that if Jesus exist and is who He said He is, - they will have to face a judgment.)

Both Atheism and Agnosticism claim that human reason and scientific empiricism (*data which can be measured*) are the only sensible explanations for why things exist. – but an intelligent atheist will admit they do not know everything about the universe (which makes them an agnostic...)

- Because no element of His existence can be measured or tested, God cannot viably exist. – this is a result of limited human knowledge of science, but still relying on it to answer any or every question.
- If the origin of life and the universe can be explained scientifically, then God becomes unnecessary in the equation. – but it can't be explained, except when considering God is the Creator.

“If Jesus Christ were to come today, people would not even crucify Him. They would ask Him to dinner and hear what He had to say and then make fun of Him.” - Thomas Carlyle - Once a Christian, Carlyle lost his faith while attending the University of Edinburgh, later adopting a form of Deism. His philosophy, combined with his appreciation of the German culture, the Norse mythology and his anti-democratic views, is considered by some a prelude for fascism.

“The story of Jesus is very fascinating. It still has such a tremendous power even after 2,000 years, but we don't really know if he existed as a historical figure.” - Bjorn Ulvaeus - a Swedish songwriter, producer, and former member of the Swedish musical group ABBA.

More copies of the Bible were printed last year than in any previous year. Although it is the most outstanding pieces of literature ever produced, many, "enlightened" Americans seem to know little or nothing about it.

A Gallup poll conducted some years ago revealed that 60 percent of Americans did not know what "the Holy Trinity" was. 66 percent couldn't say who delivered the Sermon on the Mount, and 79 percent were unable to name a single Old Testament prophet.

Surveys indicate that 91% of Americans own a Bible and 85% consider themselves to be Christians but only 40% say they are born again. More than half (56%) believe that their entrance into Heaven will be decided based on their behavior (good works) during their life. Although 80% believe the Bible is the inspired Word of God, 61% believe the Holy Spirit is not real.

Another way to look at it:

This type of thinking uses very limited human knowledge as the standard by which all things must be measured or tested. It does not take into account that not all things in the universe can be measured this way!

To say that God does not exist because He cannot be measured is like saying that my love for my wife or children cannot exist because it cannot be measured in a laboratory!

The type of God that the Bible describes may not satisfy the standard of the scientific method in human terms. He claims to be infinite, therefore, He cannot be measured in ounces, grams, or gallons!

“Supposing science ever became so complete that it knew every single thing in the whole universe, could it also answer the questions:”

- 1) WHY is there a universe?
- 2) WHY does it go on as it does?
- 3) Does it have any MEANING?”

- C.S. Lewis

IT COULD NOT!!!

Why don't the names of Buddha, Mohammed, or Confucius offend people? The reason is that these others didn't claim to be God, but Jesus did. - Josh McDowell

Buddha - Enlightenment
Confucious - Wisdom
Muhammad - A Way of Life
Jesus Christ - Eternal Life

No moral teacher offers you power to follow His teachings except Jesus!

ARCHAEOLOGY: Some amazing facts...

From Genesis to Revelation, there is not a single book in the Bible that cannot draw support from the field of archaeology. What archaeology does do is prove the historical accuracy and trustworthiness of many Biblical passages. It gives the bible tangible credibility as a historical source. Although archaeology in itself does not prove that the Bible is the inspired word of God, *Bible prophecy does*.

ARCHAEOLOGY - Three amazing facts...

- 1) Every book in the Bible can be supported by archaeological evidence!
- 2) There has never been an artifact recovered or archaeological finding discovered that disproves any Biblical account!
- 3) Every biblical archaeological find has always supported biblical accounts and accuracy!

SCIENCE... Health principles that were written in the Bible thousands of years before modern scientific knowledge are now being confirmed today.

The Bible's Unity....

- Written on 3 different continents
- Written in 3 languages
- Written by more than 50 different authors of all different backgrounds (from Kings & Doctors to farmers & fisherman)
- Written over about 1500 years
- Most of the writers never met each other
- Despite these odds, the Bible is ingeniously in harmony with itself. All 66 books fit together like a puzzle.

Plain Reason...

- Even men who deny the Bible know that a man named Jesus Christ actually existed in history but say that He was just a good man and teacher...nothing more.
- However, a good teacher will not deceive a person into believing something about him that isn't true.
- A good teacher will not lie and teach other men to do so.

"A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would be either a lunatic - on a level with a man who says he is a poached egg, or else he would be the devil of hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the son of God; or else a madman or something worse. You can shut him up for a fool, you can spit on him and kill him as a demon; or you can fall at His feet and call him Lord and God. But let us not come with any patronizing nonsense about his being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to." - C.S. LEWIS

Jesus taught His disciples that He was the Son of God. Either that is true, or Jesus is the greatest deceiver and fraud that has ever existed on the planet. He said to them..."But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered and said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God" - **Matthew 16:15-16**

Thousands of Eye-Witnesses... The eye-witness account of the apostles & resurrection believers. Men do not die for something they don't believe in unless they think they can get some kind of personal gain. The disciples were poor, they were persecuted, and all but one died martyr's deaths. They even wrote about their own mistakes! Why would they do that if they were conspirators of a religious scam?

Some Atheistic Arguments to Answer....

1. Truth is relative. There are no absolutes.

- Morality is relative to ones' personal perspective or cultural background.
- Since morality does not originate with God, it did with human beings.
- "Good" or "moral" is defined by society as what is best for the largest number of people over the long run. "What is moral is what you feel good after, and what is immoral is what you feel bad after." - Ernest Hemingway

The Answer:

1. Truth is absolute. It is **NOT** relative.
 - Saying that truth is relative is an absolute statement in itself...which is a contradicting statement.
 - Morality goes against the very idea of evolution and the survival of the fittest.
 - If society decides what is moral, since there are so many differing "societies", who decides *which society* is moral?
 - Cannibals?
 - Nazi Germany?
 - Child Molesters?

2. The concept of God is not supported by science.

- There is no scientific evidence for the viable existence of God.
 - Scientific evidence goes against the existence of God.
 - Macro Evolution is evidence that the creation story is not viable, and God does not exist.
- "It is absolutely safe to say that if you meet someone who claims not to believe in evolution, that person is ignorant, stupid, or insane."* - Richard Dawkins

The Answer:

2. The Concept of God **IS** supported by science, and more evidence is being discovered every day!
 - To say that there is no scientific evidence for God is unfairly closing the door to the idea. It is being close-minded and therefore un-scientific.

Science must consider all possible scenarios.

- Where is it? There is no evidence that God doesn't exist...only evidence that supports unproven atheistic theories. Christianity embraces reason AND evidence.
- Macro evolution has no shred of evidence that it is true...only a few bones that have relative dates from unreliable dating methods.

3. If God is so good, why is there evil?

- A good God cannot exist because there is evil in the world.
- All the suffering in the world cannot possibly declare that a moral God exists.

“It is absolutely safe to say that if you meet someone who claims not to believe in evolution, that person is ignorant, stupid, or insane.”- Richard Dawkins

The Answer:

3. A Good God can exist even though there is evil in the world.

- God gave human beings the **free will** to choose between good and evil.
- Moral evil exists because of an abuse of that free choice.
- Without free will, people could not choose to love or respond to love.
- Therefore, God did not create evil, but people have chosen it.
- With a “relative” view of right & wrong, how can **anything** be called “evil”? Evil requires the existence of a standard...what is the standard? It is built inside of us.
- Evil is the absence of good.

4. What about all the evil done in the name of God?

- Much evil has been done in the name of Christianity.
 - Why would God allow all this evil to be done in His name?
 - History has shown that wherever religion is present, evil & corruption is sure to follow?
- “A loving God could not possibly be the author of the horrors we have seen in the world...it is obvious that there cannot be a loving God.” - Charles Templeton, Farewell to God

The Answer:

4. Evil done in the name of religion does not prove that there is no God. the same as good done in the name of atheism does not prove that God doesn't exist.

- There have always been misguided Christians...the same as atheists.
- The existence of evil or “sin” supports what the Bible says about it.
- If everyone followed the teachings of Jesus fully, no evil *would be done* in the name of God.
- Christians could also point the evil done in the name of atheism, but logically, this does not mean that atheism is false or does not exist...

Interesting Quotes –

“I am quite conscious that my speculations run beyond the bounds of true science...it is a mere rag of hypothesis with as many flaws and holes as sound parts.” - Charles Darwin

“To improve a living organism by random mutation is like saying you could improve a Swiss watch by dropping it and bending one of its wheels or axis. Improving like by random mutations has the probability of zero.” - Albert Szent Gyorgi - a Hungarian American physiologist who won the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in 1937. He is credited with discovering vitamin C and the components and reactions of the citric acid cycle.

“If pressed about man's ancestry, I would have to say that all we have is a huge question mark. To date, there has been nothing found to truthfully support a transitional species to man...if further pressed, I would have to state that there is *more evidence* to suggest an abrupt arrival of man rather than a gradual process of evolving.” - Richard Leakey - World Famous Paleoanthropologist

“All of us who study the origin of life find that the more we look into it, the more we feel that it is too complex to have evolved anywhere. We believe as an article of faith that life evolved from dead matter on this planet. It is just that its complexity is so great, it is hard for us to imagine that it did.” - Dr. Harold Urey – Chemist

A few thoughts to make atheists think:

1. How do you know **for sure** that what you believe is right? What proof do you actually have to support it?
2. I'm an atheist too! (if you believe in a God who would burn people for all eternity)

3. I don't have enough faith to be an atheist or evolutionist.
4. Pascal's Wager (see below)
5. Ask the Russians – having lived under atheistic communism, they have now chosen Christianity.

“The devil has had a field day with prejudicial assumption that you have to be some sort of moron to swallow Christianity...far from being in conflict, Christian faith goes hand in hand with reason, common sense, and **historical fact.**” – Cliff Richard

Pascal's Wager - If Jesus is not divine, then He cannot offer eternal life. He can only offer us more ideology which the world has had more than enough of. However, if He is divine then His offer is real. If we miss it, in the end we have lost everything to gain the nothing we thought was everything!

Let us examine the probabilities of chance (accident) accounting for the initial creation of energy. Chance is not really chance! Mathematicians can accurately measure the probability of anything occurring once they know the nature of the things that chance will be acting upon.

For example, a quarter has two sides, and if tossed up into the air and allowed to land on the ground, it will land only one of two ways: either it will land on one side (called heads) or on the other (called tails).

We can say, therefore, that the chances of a quarter landing on heads is one in two (barring the unlikely and extremely low percentages of time that it could land on its side. Even this probability could be scientifically determined once scientists tossed the coin enough times. But, for the sake of argument, we will say that there are only two ways that the coin can land, either on one side or on the other.)

If we toss up two quarters, there are now four ways that the coins can land: either they will both land on heads; they will both land on tails; the first will land on heads and the other will land on tails; or the first will land on tails and the other on heads.

There are two ways that these things can be measured: scientists can actually toss the coins into the air enough times and record their actual observations, or mathematicians can calculate the probabilities involved by using the laws of mathematics without actually tossing the coins.

Let us now examine the number of times that ten consecutively numbered cards can come up in a random fashion (meaning by chance), one being drawn out of the ten at a time. There are 3,628,000 different ways that those cards can be drawn out; In other words, 4,7,5,9,1,8,3,2,10, and 6 would be one such example. The chances of this sequence coming out of such a single random drawing would be one in 3,628,000.

If we increase the number of cards to 100, there would be 10^{158} ways that the numbered cards could come out in any random drawing.

Let me explain what the number, 10^{158} , represents for those not familiar with math like this.

The result of multiplication of 10 times 10 is 100. When written as a square, it is written as 10^2 . When written as a number, it is a 1 followed by the number of zeroes shown after the number, in this case, one followed by two zeroes, or 100.

10 times 10 times 10 is 1,000, written as 10^3 , or 1 followed by three zeroes (1,000).

10^{158} would be the number 1 followed by 158 zeroes or:

So, if the universe did not originate **by chance**, what then are the other alternatives?

Either the universe was started by something or someone capable of creating a universe (a master designer) or no one is sure how it got started.... But the fact remains that it did get started because here we are....

First, we will examine the thought that the universe was created by a designer. Presume that you are someone who has lived in a forest all of your life, by yourself, and you suddenly decide to take a long walk into the neighboring desert. As far as you know, there are no other human beings because you have never seen anyone else. As you are walking, you look down and spot a shiny object in the sand. You pick it up, and examine it carefully. You do not know what the object is because you have never seen one before. (It is a wrist watch, but it is an unknown object as far as your experience extends.)

There are only two ways that this shiny object could have gotten there: either it was made by something or someone, or else it got there by accident or chance.

If it got there by chance, its origins would have to be no different than any other object in your view: for instance, the rocks or bushes nearby. You examine the unknown object and notice that parts of it are moving, and if you examined it long enough, you would discover that every time the little moving part got to the unknown symbol "12", it was either totally dark or the sun was directly overhead. Your mind starts to tell you that this is no ordinary object.

It seems to have some function, but one not associated with a random happening. You start thinking that it could not have gotten there by chance. You conclude that it was actually created by someone or something, even though you are not sure who or what - with an actual purpose in mind. You look around the area and find no other objects of a similar nature.

If the object did not get there by chance, it had to have been created by something or someone more powerful than mere chance. But you see no one in any direction, nor anything capable of making such an object. Yet, your mind tells you that it was actually created; it could not have gotten there by chance. What are your conclusions?

Even though you cannot identify who or what made this shiny object, your mind tells you that it was not created by accident. It had to have been created; **there is no other option**.

Now, is the universe more complex than that watch? Yes – by far.

Yet we are being asked by some “scientists” to believe that it got here by accident, by some random happening known as chance. The human mind screams at the observer, "The universe is too complex to have been assembled by chance. It had to have been the result of a conscious design of a designer."

Perhaps another example of the human mind's unwillingness to logically conclude that there was a designer in the universe occurred a few years ago when scientists looked at some pictures of parts of the planet Mars.

These pictures had been taken by a flyby space mission, and appeared to show a monkey face on the surface of the planet. The almost immediate response by some in the scientific community was that the face had to have been created. It seemed to show that some form of intelligent mind had physically created the face. These scientists were jubilant. They had found what appeared to be evidence of intelligent life on another planet.

Yet, it appeared that those who wanted to believe that the face had been created by some sort of conscious design, *had excluded the possibility that the face could have been created by chance.*

Anyone would have had to conclude that there was at least a possibility that the face could have been created by wind, erosion, or just simply by chance. But the scientists were quick to point out that the face had been made by an intelligent form of life. Chance was almost dismissed as having no chance. The face had to have been created.

Many of these same skeptical scientists look at the universe, with all of its intelligent design, precise laws and functions, and claim to see no evidence of design, nor any designer. Yet **these same scientists** had determined with precise accuracy just how far away from Mars their probe had to be so that it would not crash into the planet itself.

They had to know precisely just how far it would have to be so that it would not fly by into a trajectory that would not allow it to orbit. These scientists were making their projections based upon scientific laws, **in a universe that is structured on precise laws**. Yet, they reasoned that the universe was not created – that it is here by chance. As we have examined, there is absolutely **no chance** that the universe was created by chance.

But, many skeptics are quick to believe that it had to be created by chance, ***because they refuse to believe in a designer (God) – because if God DOES exist, then we have a responsibility and will face the judgment of God as He says...***

- A universe that could not have occurred by chance had been created by chance.
- A monkey face that could have been created by chance had been created solely by (unseen) intelligent life. It does not make sense unless you think like an atheist.

The human mind screams at the observer, "The universe is too complex to have been assembled by chance. It had to have been the result of a conscious design of a designer!"

America's founding fathers said that the fact that man had human rights was a "self-evident truth." They recognized that certain things were self-evident. That meant that they were **not debatable. They were true simply because they were true**. They wrote the following into America's Declaration of Independence: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men were created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights.."

A "self-evident truth" is not debatable. There are no other options. It is true simply because it is true. That is the way it is, regardless of what we might want to believe to the contrary. The fact that the universe was created by a Master Designer is a "self-evident truth", whether we choose to believe it or not.

The human mind is compelled to conclude that there is a creator, a first cause. That thought is a "self-evident truth."

So if you're going to still think like an atheist, at least think like an **intelligent atheist** and admit that you do not **know** that God does not exist simply because you do not and cannot know everything about His universe.